

# Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2020

10:00 am

Tippecanoe Room, Tippecanoe County Office Building  
20 N 3rd Street, Lafayette, Indiana

Commissioners present President Tracy A. Brown, Vice President Thomas P. Murtaugh and Member David S. Byers.

Also present: Attorney Doug Masson, Auditor Robert Plantenga, Commissioners' Assistant Paula Bennett and Max Walling from the DoIT Department.

- I. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – President Brown called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. President Brown also asked for a moment of silence for former Building Commissioner Ron Highland who passed away recently.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Monday, April 6, 2020 Regular Meeting
  - Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.
- III. **PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**
  - After recommendation for approval from Commissioners' Assistant Paula Bennett to approve the claims without exception, Commissioner Byers moved to approve the Accounts Payable from April 10 through April 20, 2020 for \$6,437,425.74, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.
- IV. **PRESENTATION OF PAYROLL**
  - After recommendation from Commissioners' Assistant Paula Bennett to approve payroll without exception, Commissioner Byers moved to approve the Payroll of April 17, 2020 for \$2,491,049.61, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.
- V. **HIGHWAY** – Stewart Kline, Highway Executive Director
  - Executive Director Kline stated that due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, travel has decreased approximately 41%. Most highway funding derived from gas tax, the department must adjust its budget due to reduced revenue. One service eliminated will be the dust control operation. Projects with funding already allocated will proceed as planned while other projects will need to be prioritized.
  - Bids received and opened for the Tippecanoe County 500 North and 50 West intersection improvement project were as follows (alternate is a deduction for Alternate Maintaining Traffic):

	<u>Base Bid Total</u>	<u>Total Alternate #1</u>
○ Rieth Riley	\$1,194,884.50	\$1,055,384.50
○ Milestone	\$1,326,800.00	\$1,236,150.00

Commissioner Murtaugh moved to take the submitted bids under advisement, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion Carried.

- Stewart Kline presented Continuation Certificate for Indiana Gas Company d/b/a Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana Inc. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the

Continuation Certificate for \$5,000 for the period of June 30, 2019 and ending June 29, 2020 as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

**VI. SURVEYOR – Zach Beasley presented and recommended:**

- Storm Sewer Easement to the City of Lafayette. The easement in the SR38 and Creasy Lane area allows the City to tie into the #11 branch by crossing county property. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the easement as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried. The request will now be forwarded to the Drainage Board for approval.

**VII. HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- Memorandum of Understanding with Jali LLC for lodging of individuals needing quarantined by the Health Department for individuals exposed, infected and/or tested positive for the Coronavirus at a rate of \$59 per night. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the MOU, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

**VIII. HUMAN RESOURCES**

- Revision of the Declaration concerning COVID-19 Leave Benefit for County Employees requesting COVID-19 Leave extending the effective date from the original ending date to correspond with the federal guidelines. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to approve the policy change as presented, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

**IX. GRANTS**

- Motion made by Commissioner Murtaugh to apply for a \$250,000 Community Corrections Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards 2020 Grant with a 50% County match, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Commissioner Murtaugh to apply for a Health Department \$250,000 COVID-19 Response grant for services associated with isolated and quarantined individuals, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.
- Community Corrections Director Jason Huber detailed the comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant and Substance Abuse Program Mentor Site Selection. This is an application of a grant received previously under a different name. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to apply for the grant, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

**X. PROPOSED 2021 SALARY INCREASES – Auditor Robert Plantenga**

- Commissioners were presented with the fiscal impact by fund for 2021 if various percentage increases to salaries are granted. This is a recommendation to the County Council with the salary requests reflecting the Commissioner recommendation. The year 2021 is a difficult year to estimate the fiscal impact due to COVID-19. With stated agreement by all three Commissioners, Commissioner Murtaugh moved to recommend a 0% salary increase with longevity increases allowed, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

**XI. CHANGE ORDERS FOR THE FAIRGROUNDS PROJECT**

- Infill wall on Swine Barn north bay and rough opening framing for overhead door for \$12,694.00. Door openers and hand dryers for \$19,325.00. Hand sink and water heaters

for the restrooms are included for an increase of \$5,930.00 Commissioner Byers moved to approve the three change orders, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

## **XII. CHANGE ORDERS FOR CENTRAL OFFICES (1950 S 18<sup>TH</sup> ST)**

- Work on basement lock for an increase of \$165 requested. Commissioner Byers moved to approve the change order, second by Commissioner Murtaugh. Motion carried.

## **XIII. UNFINISHED or NEW BUSINESS**

- President Brown stated that Governor Holcomb's Stay at Home Order was extended until May 1. The county will follow the order for government operations. Commissioner Murtaugh moved to extend the Commissioner's restricted public access order until May 4, 2020 to correspond with the date of the next regularly scheduled Commissioners Meeting, second by Commissioner Byers. Motion carried.

## **XIV. REPORTS ON FILE**

- Clerk of the Circuit Court
- Tippecanoe County Public Library
- Weights & Measures

## **XV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

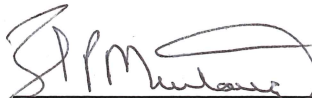
- Email Public Comment request received from Edward Dawson. He requested the Commissioners consider a temporary open burning ban during this public health emergency. Neighbors burning of yard waste make breathing difficult was asthma. The stay at home order does not allow him the mobility to get away from the smoke. Commissioner Murtaugh stated in the past a temporary ban had been allowed for drought conditions due to fire hazard but no burning ordinance exists. No action taken.

Commissioner Murtaugh moved to adjourn. President Brown adjourned the meeting.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE COUNTY OF TIPPECANOE



Tracy A. Brown, President



Thomas P. Murtaugh, Vice-President



David S. Byers, Member

ATTEST:



Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor 5/4/2020